

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An automatic optical output level adjuster has a plurality of couplers for branching an optical signal, an optical switch for switching optical signal paths, a variable attenuator for attenuating the optical signal, a variable optical amplifier for amplifying the optical signal, photodetectors, and a CPU for control. The photodetectors detect the level of an optical input to the automatic optical output level adjuster and the level of an optical output from the adjuster. The CPU controls the optical switch on the basis of the detected optical input level and controls the amount of attenuation by the variable attenuator or the optical output from the variable amplifier on the basis of the detected optical output level.

In a wavelength-multiplex optical transmission receiving system having the automatic optical output level adjuster inserted between a dispersion compensating fiber and an optical receiver, the level of an optical signal input to the optical receiver is automatically adjusted to an optimum light receiving level even when the set value of the amount of dispersion compensation by the dispersion compensating fiber is changed.

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